

The Crucible, Act II, by Arthur Miller**Selection Test A****Critical Reading** *Identify the letter of the choice that best answers the question.*

- ___ 1. At the beginning of *The Crucible, Act II*, what is the relationship between the Proctors?
- A. difficult
 - B. trusting
 - C. comfortable
 - D. affectionate
- ___ 2. In *The Crucible, Act II*, what does John Proctor mean when he says to Elizabeth that no matter what he does, “an everlasting funeral marches around” her heart?
- A. He fears she wishes he were dead.
 - B. She is always sad, whatever he does.
 - C. He wants to move and she doesn’t.
 - D. She goes to too many funerals.
- ___ 3. In *The Crucible, Act II*, what does Mary mean to suggest when she says that the crowd parted for Abigail like the Red Sea parted for the people of Israel?
- A. She compares Abigail’s power to the power of Moses.
 - B. She compares Abigail’s power to the power of witches.
 - C. She compares Abigail’s power to the power of a queen.
 - D. She compares Abigail’s power to the size of the Red Sea.
- ___ 4. In *The Crucible, Act II*, what do these stage directions: *with a smile, to keep her dignity*, reveal about Elizabeth’s character?
- A. She is always cheerful and dignified.
 - B. She thinks it is undignified to show anger.
 - C. She smiles all of the time.
 - D. She is tired of trying to be dignified.
- ___ 5. What is John suggesting about Mary Warren when he says “It’s strange work for a Christian girl to hang old women”?
- A. Mary is getting to be powerful.
 - B. Mary is religious.
 - C. Mary is leaving the church.
 - D. Mary is dangerous.

- ___ 6. In *The Crucible*, Act II, Hale is in shock when the beloved Rebecca Nurse is accused. What does he mean when he alludes to the Devil, saying that: “an hour before the Devil fell, God thought him beautiful in Heaven”?
- A. Beauty and goodness are not the same.
 - B. God’s will is not for humans to know.
 - C. Evil can masquerade as Good.
 - D. God’s opinions are unimportant.
- ___ 7. What do you learn about John’s character in *The Crucible*, Act II, based on the stage directions that read “[he] is striving against his disgust with HALE and with himself for even answering”?
- A. He has the answers but hides them.
 - B. He is often in conflict with himself
 - C. His feelings for Hale are scornful.
 - D. He does not have the answers he needs.
- ___ 8. What is the “poppet” that is used in *The Crucible*?
- A. It is a toy made for children.
 - B. It is a tool of witchcraft.
 - C. It is a gift from woman to woman.
 - D. It is evidence that one is religious.
- ___ 9. In *The Crucible*, Act II, Hale appears at the Proctors’ door and is described as “different now - drawn a little, and there is a quality . . . even of guilt, about his manner now.” What do these stage directions tell you about Hale?
- A. He feels completely comfortable with all of his actions.
 - B. He respects the Proctors but believes they are guilty.
 - C. He has been exhausted by his work and wants to quit.
 - D. He has become disturbed by what he has seen in court.
- ___ 10. Why does Proctor think Abigail accuses his wife of witchcraft in *The Crucible*, Act II?
- A. to show Salem how much power she has
 - B. to make John pay for rejecting her
 - C. to punish Elizabeth for firing her
 - D. to distract attention from her own sins

Vocabulary and Grammar

- ___ 11. Which word best replaces *pallor* in this sentence: “The *pallor* of her face suggested that she was frightened”?
- A. smile
 - B. eagerness
 - C. excitement
 - D. paleness
- ___ 12. Which sentence correctly uses punctuation after a word that is used to introduce the sentence?
- A. “I’ll go, John”
 - B. “Why, she done it herself.”
 - C. “Murder! I charge no-”
 - D. “And yet silent, minister?”

Essay

13. When John Proctor tries to keep his wife Elizabeth from being dragged off to court, Reverend Hale says, “The court is just,” as if he is saying it is not his problem and that someone else will decide her fate. Do you think Hale should have taken on more responsibility? In a brief essay, describe what you believe to be the right path for Hale.
14. In *The Crucible*, Mary Warren seems like a quiet and powerless character at first. What does Mary learn in Act I, and now in Act II, that shows her a way to achieve more power? How does she use this knowledge? Write a brief essay to answer these questions.